

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197351

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. PLEASE ASK THE SIMONS TO TELL LAURI LIPPITZ TO WRITE HOME.

2. CONGRATULATIONS ON THE CABLE ON EE AND ECPC, A THOUGHTFUL AND PROVOCATIVE PIECE WHICH WE WILL BE TURNING BACK TO FOR SOME TIME TO COME. PERSONALLY I AGREE THAT WE SHOULD OFFER THE EES ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES TO STRENGTHEN THEIR HANDS, BUT OBJECTIVELY WE HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE USSR IS THE MOST NATURAL SOURCE OF RAW MATERIALS AND MARKET FOR THEIR MANUFACTURED GOODS. THE BALKAN REGIONAL CONCEPT IS FINE BY ME BUT ANATHEMA TO THOSE HERE WHO WORRY ABOUT NATO.

3. RE CONVERSATION WITH SVYATOV AND KATASONOV (YOUR 12466), WE ARE GLAD THAT EMBASSY HAS GOTTEN ACCESS TO LATTER. KATASONOV IS EXPERT ON US DEFENSE PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING TECHNIQUES. WHILE HE HAS WRITTEN STUDIES UNDER USA INSTITUTE AUSPICES, HE FORMERLY WAS ASSOCIATED WITH SOME
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NON-ACADEMIC CLOSED INSTITUTION, PERHAPS MINDEF, GOSPLAN,

OR INTELLIGENCE ORGAN. YOU MAY WISH TO ENGAGE HIM IN A DIALOGUE ON HIS PERCEPTIONS OF HOW DEFENSE PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING TECHNIQUES HAVE CHANGES UNDER SUCCESSIVE SECDEFS

IN THE US. YOU COULD THEN TRY TO SOUND HIM OUT ON THE USEFULNESS AND SHORTCOMINGS OF VARIOUS DEFENSE PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING TECHNIQUES IN ORDER TO GET INSIGHT ON SOVIET PRACTICES. DAO MAY HAVE SOME GOOD BACKGROUND READING (SUCH AS INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF ARMED FORCES TEXT-BOOK ON PPBS) ON US PLANNING/BUDGETING PRACTICES. FYI SOVIETS THIS YEAR HAVE REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN 1976 UN EXPERTS STUDY OF TECHNICAL ISSUES INVOLVED IN MILITARY EXPENDITURES LIMITATIONS. END FYI.

4. INCIDENTALLY, WE TALKED RECENTLY WITH BEREZHKOVA WHO USED A LINE SIMILAR TO SVYATOV'S, POOR-MOUTHING SOVIET ECONOMY IN CONTEXT OF ARMS EXPENDITURES.

5. MOSCOW 12462 (SOVIET VIEWS ON KOREA) IS PRECISELY THE KIND OF REPORTING THAT IS HIGHLY VALUED. INCIDENTALLY, EMBASSY MAY SOON RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRE-UNGA APPROACH TO SOVIETS ON KOREA AND OTHER UN ISSUES (PUERTO RICO, ZIONISM), IF APPROVED AT HIGH LEVEL. YOU WOULD TAKE STRONG EXCEPTION TO AUGUST 5 DPRK STATEMENT ON US AND ROK WAR PREPARATIONS AND SUGGEST THAT SOVIETS SEEK TO INFLUENCE NORTH KOREANS IN DIRECTION OF RESTRAINT IN UNGA. WHILE WE SHARE EMBASSY'S APPARENT ASSESSMENT THAT SOVIET INFLUENCE IN, AND WILLINGNESS TO RESTRAIN, PYONGYANG ARE LIMITED, WE BELIEVE THAT MOSCOW SHOULD NOT DRAW CONCLUSION THAT IRRESPONSIBLE NORTH KOREAN ACTIONS DO NOT AFFECT BROADER US-SOVIET INTERESTS. APPROACH ON KOREA WOULD ALSO REMIND SOVIETS OF SECRETARY'S 1975 STATEMENT THAT MOVES BY NORTH KOREA AND ITS ALLIES TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ROK WILL BE RECIPROCATED BY OTHER SIDE. HABIB

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